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THE NUR AF'SHAN

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No. 52

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to our readers! What day more joyous than that one which commences the Angels' Song, "Peace on Earth and good-will towards men!" What cause of joy so great as the advent of the Messiah who saves his people from their sins! The religion of Jesus Christ is a historic religion. Its power is seen in its influence upon the world. This power operates more effectually in the Earth than ever. No nation exists that has not felt its benign influence in some measure at least. None should be more joyful and thankful than our readers in India.

It is almost amusing to see how our Arya contemporary, the *Arya Patrika*, endeavours to maintain his vain hope that "Christianity is failing." Every difference between Christian sects, every infidel or heretical attack upon the Bible, is regarded as a sign of the decadence of Christianity! He does not seem to know that these phenomena have always characterised the history of the Church. Many of the disciples of the Master himself, "went away and no more followed after Him." The apostles bemoaned the defection of many from the Church and the rise of false and heretical teachers. The Church in the early centuries was rent in pieces by dreadful heresies. Not only so but all along the centuries it has been so and is so now. As well might the *Arya Patrika* point to the constant struggle of the British Empire and prophesy its fall. Many of Britain's enemies have done so, but the red tinge still marks the map of the world and each decade sees it extending in new regions of the Earth. No, my friend, you are mistaken. Your desires dictate your judgments. The grand and glorious work of God is seen most clearly in the Christianity of to-day. The Church of God was never so strong, never so full of spiritual life as it is to-day.

When once our Arya friends have come to see that their reformed Hinduism is, after all as helpless as the old faith to bring comfort to dying sinners; when they find they

have been hewing out for themselves cisterns that can hold no water, they will be able to see the excellencies of the Christian faith as they cannot now. They must learn by sad experience their own helplessness and infinite need before they can give heed to the Saviour's call, "Come unto me all ye that are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

The idea, that because the great American Bible Society does not yet see its way to endorse the new American Revision as the best possible, therefore the Bible has lost its hold on the people, is a *non sequitur*. The American Revision is in the opinion of very many an improvement upon King James, but there have been several revised translations in the English language. The Bible Society may and probably will issue editions of the Bible containing the great Anglo American revision, but for popular ends there is no sufficient reason for abandoning King James. This is the version which is found in the great literature of the English language covering three centuries. Its form of expression has entered into the thought and sentiment of the English speaking world. The American Bible Society does well not to listen to the clamor for the revised English translations. These all are, and will continue to be, published by the great Bible publishers, the Collins the Nelsons, the Bagsters, the Potts and the Holmans, whose sole business is to issue millions of copies of the English Bible in numerous editions. There is indeed no good reason why the Bible Societies, which publish the Word of God for missionary purposes, should encroach upon the business of those, who have undertaken to minister to the popular need by publishing the Bible in a form that ministers to aesthetical and literary tastes rather than, the spiritual needs of the masses. From all this to rush to the conclusion that Christianity is failing is simply absurd.

The *Arya Messenger* brings out once more its charge against the Tinnevely Missionaries of abducting a shepherd girl from her home. The fact that the Tinnevely Missionaries have obliged those, who made this charge in the first place, to substantiate that charge or suffer the consequences of libel and perjury, does not seem to deter the Arya Editor from repeating this libel. We are sorry for a man so blinded by prejudice. We are sorry he cannot



and what was plain to others from the first and now proven in open court, that there had been no kidnapping of this girl and that those who have suffered fine and imprisonment are not martyrs, but are suffering the just consequences of violent assault, of libel and perjury.

* THE DIVINITY OF CHRIST.—concluded.

BY REV. GEORGE WAUGH, M.A., B.D.

IV.—In the fourth place let us consider a few proofs of Christ's Divinity.

1. *His miracles.* Three things about Christ's miracles show that they were the miracles of a Divine person.

(a) *Christ's miracles were witnessed by multitudes.* We cannot believe in a miracle of which we have no witnesses. The alleged miracles of more modern, or even more ancient religious teachers cannot claim our consideration for lack of sufficient testimony, and so cannot be compared with Christ's.

(b) *Christ's miracles were works of benevolence, compassion, blessing, and love.* Other alleged miracles, suitably characterized as supposed feats, cannot rank as the works of an all-wise person, and so cannot be Divine.

(c) *Christ's miracles were performed by His inherent power.* In this they were unlike those of any other person. Not by His human power, but by His Divine power, He performed miracles. Christ's disciples confessed that they could not perform miracles by their own power, but we never hear that He ever made this confession, or that He asked God to give Him power. Therefore we conclude that He himself was God, and even His enemies could not explain them in any other way.

2. *His teaching.* All, whether Christians or not, who know the teaching of Christ, agree in affirming that it is of the very highest kind; and unsurpassed by that of any philosopher or religious teacher. His beginning to teach in such a remarkable way at such an early age, cannot well be explained in any other way than by saying that there was something more than human about Him.

3. *His prophecy.*—He sometimes spoke of the time and manner of His death in a very particular way. He also foretold His resurrection and ascension. All will have to admit, therefore, that He was at least a prophet, and a true prophet too. If true, His claim must have been true, and he constantly claims for Himself saving power. This adds to His prophetic power another element viz, its Divinity.

4. *His sinlessness.*—This is an established fact. Test His conduct by the strictest standard you choose to set up, and yet you will find nothing against Him. How can you explain this? Every thinking man confesses that no man is perfect, but that all sin. This is a rule without a single exception. Therefore Christ is more than a man. He is very God.

5. *His love.*—He loved all men, and shewed His universal love in dying for all. He invites all to come to Him and receive life and blessing. See how He healed one who came to take Him, and prayed for His enemies on the cross. See how He wept over the people of Jerusalem and desired their salvation, although they had rejected Him. See Him feeding hungry multitudes although they refused to accept Him as their Saviour. Has the world ever witnessed such love before or since? Ah it was too pure, and too far-reaching to be but human, it was the love of God.

V.—In the fifth place, let us note a very few testimonies to the greatness and Divinity of Christ.

1. At the baptism and transfiguration of Christ God testified from heaven concerning Him in these words.

"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matt. 3. 17 and Mat. 17. 5.

2. Since Christ was humble and lowly we would not expect Him to say much concerning himself, and yet he says enough to convince us of his God-head, even although we had no other testimony. We shall simply quote a few of his own statements without any remarks of our own. "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Matt. 28. 18. "All things are delivered to me of my Father" Luke 10. 22. "What things soever the Father doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise." John 5. 19. "The Father hath committed all judgment unto the Son, that all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father." John 5. 22 and 23. "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." John 14. 9. "All things that the Father hath are mine." John 16. 15. "I and my Father are one." John 10. 30. "I said, I am the Son of God." John 10. 36.

3. There are many passages in the Scriptures which ascribe Divine attributes to Christ. Here are a few. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him." John 1. 1-3. "Jesus knew all men, and needed not that any should testify of man, for he knew what was in man." John 2. 24 and 25. "Christ Jesus thought it not robbery to be equal with God." Phil. 2. 6. "The Son is before all things and by Him all things consist." Col. 1. 17. "In Christ dwelleth all the fulness of the God-head bodily." Col. 2. 9. "The Son upholdeth all things by the word of His power." Heb. 1. 3. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Heb. 13. 8.

4. Even the enemies of Christ added their feeble testimony somewhat unwillingly we may suppose, but with some the testimony of an enemy has great weight, and so we may introduce it here. When Jesus, out of mercy and love, healed an impotent man on the Sabbath day, "The Jews sought to kill Him, because He not only had broken the Sabbath, but said also that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God." John 5. 18. And once when Roman officers were sent to take Him, and could not, their heartfelt testimony was this, "Never man spake like this man." John. 7. 46. As Jesus stood on trial before Pilate, the Roman Governor, to be acquitted or condemned by him thrice did he testify, "I find no fault in Him." John 19. 4 and 6; and John. 18. 38. The chief priests, mocking Him, with the scribes and elders added their testimony. "He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" Matt. 27. 43. When the Roman centurion beheld Him dead on the cross, he exclaimed, "Truly this was the Son of God." Matt. 27. 55.

5. And to day what is the world saying? If the vote were taken I believe He would be placed first among men. Can any thinking unprejudiced man fail to confess that no one can be placed side by side with Him?

6. Humbly but with a deep-seated heart-conviction would I add my own testimony. Jesus Christ is my Saviour. There is no room for doubt here. He is very God and able to save every one who comes to Him. He claims all, no one makes a claim like His. You may with confidence claim Him. If you receive Him heartily He will never fail you, never, never, never.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Christian Students' Camp, United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

The date of the above camp has been changed to Thursday (a.m.) Dec. 31st 1903 to Sunday, January 3rd 1904.

Otherwise the arrangements are practically unaltered.

For Committee of Arrangements.

Current Thought and Incident.

THE VEDIC DOCTRINE OF A FUTURE LIFE.

It is a noteworthy fact that the doctrine of transmigration which seems to be one of the cardinal doctrines of Hinduism does not seem to have any support in Vedic literature, and what is still more remarkable the Shradha ceremonies which Hindus even to this day practice are based on the belief that the departed spirits of ancestors dwell in a certain region and not that they take the form of various animals. The belief in personal immortality is very strong in the Rig Veda. There is one hymn which is taken up entirely with describing the ceremonies that have to be undergone at a burial, and this hymn breathes throughout a firm faith in the survival of personality after death. A greater portion of the Hymn is taken up with enforcing the totality of the separation which ought to take place between the dead and the living. When the deceased is brought forth to the place of interment surrounded by his friends and family, in order to symbolize the distinct boundary and separation between the living and the dead, the officiating person draws a circle, and sets a stone between it and the grave with the words:—

This fix I as protection for the living;

may none of them depart on the same errand;

Long may they live, a hundred numerous autumns,
'twixt death and them a mountain interposing.

As day succeeds to day in endless series,

as seasons happily move on with seasons,

As each that passes lacks not its successors,

so do thou make their lives move on, Creator!

One by one the company leave the bier and enter the domain of the living till the wife alone is left with the deceased, till she too is led away by her brother-in-law, or first child or an old servant. The deceased has carried a bow in his hand and this too is taken away to signify that he has done with all native occupations of life. Then with gentle action and tender words the body is committed to the earth:—

Approach thou now the lap of earth, thy mother,
the wide-extending earth, the ever kindly;

A maiden soft as wool to him who comes with gifts.
She shall protect thee from destruction's bosom.

Open thyself, O earth, and press not heavily;
be easy of access and of approach to him;

As mother with her robe her child,
so do thou cover him, O earth!

May earth maintain herself thus opened wide for him;
a thousand props shall give support about him;

And may those mansions ever drip with fatness;
may they be there for evermore his refuge.

Forth from about thee thus I build away the ground;
as I lay down this clod may I receive no harm;

This pillar may the Fathers here maintain for thee;
may Yama there provide for thee a dwelling.

The funeral ceremony depicted in this ancient Hymn is distinctly a hymn descriptive of the burial of the body in the earth. Evidently cremation was a later practice. There is not the slightest allusion in the hymn to the cruel practice of immolating the widow at the grave of her husband.

The land where the departed souls entered was the land ruled over by Yama. There is no distinction of heaven and hell, nor was Yama the inexorable judge and dreaded executioner which he became to the conceptions of a later time. Agni, the god of fire, is the medium of communication between men upon earth and the fathers in the realm

of Yama. There is no attempt made in any Vedic hymn to assign employments to the departed in their changed state. The subject dealt with largely is the relation in which the departed fathers stand to their living descendants and the duties of the latter growing out of that relation. The fathers are supposed to assemble upon due invocation, about the altar of him who would pay them homage, and partake of the offerings set before them. When we read the hymns in the Rig Veda we are obliged to agree with Barouf who says; "The belief in the immortality of the soul, not naked and inactive, but living and clothed with immortality, was never interrupted for a moment. It is now in India what it was in those ancient times, and even rests on a similar metaphysical basis."

Christian Patriot.

THE HISTORIC CHRIST.

Tacitus, the great Latin historian who wrote at the beginning of the second century, tells very explicitly of the crucifixion of Jesus by order of Pilate at Jerusalem—his details being in exact accordance with what the gospels relate. Pliny, the contemporary and friend of Tacitus, while serving as a provincial governor, wrote to the emperor a letter asking for directions how to deal with the Christians, and while that letter does not directly mention Christ, it yet implies just the sort of Founder for Christianity that the Bible describes. There is a reference to the early Church also in Suetonius, an author of about the same period, and while he is neither so fair nor so accurate, his testimony to the existence of Christianity in his time is unmistakable. There are unquestionable references to the historic Christ, and it is not necessary to appeal to such doubtful documents as the alleged report of Pontius Pilate to the emperor or the widely circulated letter of Publius Lentulus. Moreover, the writings of Josephus may be called in witness for proof from a Jewish source. Although the passage in the "Antiquities" which most specifically refers to our Lord seems to have been written into the book later, Josephus elsewhere refers to James, pastor at Jerusalem, as the "brother of Jesus," and he has a considerable account of John the Baptist, whose ministry of course implies that of Christ. That Josephus should omit further reference to Jesus is not strange, for he is notorious among historians for leaving out facts that do not please his notion of things. In the Talmud Jesus is spoken of again and again, and always in terms which show that the Jewish scribes and lawyers who were the authors of these writings hated him just as bitterly as the gospels report. Then the literature of the Christian Church forms an unbroken chain from the times of the apostles. There are epistles extant of Clement and Polycarp, of whom the former was quite probably acquainted personally with Paul and the latter certainly with the beloved John. And finally, the very existence of the Church in all the centuries of the Christian era and down to this present moment is an inevitable "reason aside from the gospels for believing in the historic personality of Christ." There is no way to explain how this Christianity came to be except on the belief that Jesus lived and died and rose again as the Scriptures record. This question is very seldom discussed any more, because even the roughest infidels to day, if they are men of any intelligence at all, admit the historicity of Jesus Christ; it is simply impossible not to believe that much, if a man has mind enough to believe anything.

DANGERS IN MOUNTAIN CLIMBING.

There are many amusements or recreations in which the element of danger enters, and possibly this fact gives an added zest to their enjoyment. If this is so and the enjoyment increases in proportion to the danger, mountain-climbing must be the most

fascinating occupation indulged in for the sake of mere pleasure. The death roll in the Alps this season has been enormous. Already more than three hundred accidents have been recorded, resulting in the loss of one hundred and fifty lives. The general cause of disaster has been the exceptionally unfavorable weather combined with the unprecedented false economy. Case after case has been due to climbing without guides in disregard of the weather and snow conditions, while several deaths have been due to the foolish and increasing practice of climbing attired in fashionable costumes such as lace petticoats and patent leather shoes. Two or three such fatalities among lady climbers particularly are recorded. One of the most marvelous was that of the Honorable Gerald Fitzgerald on Monte Rosa. He was passing along a dangerous edge roped between two guides. Fitzgerald and the younger guide, Alner, fell, but the rope held and young Alner succeeded in clinging to a rock. He saved himself and reaching a hut telephoned for help, Fitzgerald having broken his right leg. Unable to help himself he remained for seven hours suspended in mid-air over a precipice of 10 500 feet, thanks to the indomitable courage of old Alner, who stood motionless there seven hours with his legs propped against a boulder supporting him at the rope till help arrived.

SACRED MAXIMS.

He alone is truly wise who is wise unto salvation.
Proud hearts and lofty mountains are always barren.
They who are too poor to trade in the world, may buy abundantly in God's market.

The trees that are most in the sun bear the sweetest fruit.
The children of God have much in hand and much more in hope.

The faith that unites to Christ, separates from iniquity.
God's promises are as certain as his actual performances.

A man may well bear his cross patiently while on the road to wear his crown.

To tell a Christian that he runs fast, may soon make him stand still.

Divine assistance will be withheld when it becomes a nurse for pride.

If you boast of your treasures of grace, you will soon be robbed.

Few are wise enough to distinguish between shadow and substance.

Faith alone sees God in Christ.

A sense of pardon melts the heart more than a dread of punishment.

Do the duties of to-day and leave the cares of to-morrow till they come.

In vain will you seek for substance in a world of shadows.

Dread one thief in the house more than ten in the street.

Truth is far more certain in the Bible than in the mouth of an angel.

Were we to take Christ at his word, we could do without comments.

If you are God's wise men, the world will count you fools.

Preferring our own wills to the will of God, is to make gods of ourselves.

It requires more grace to suffer patiently, than to serve laboriously.

Embracing the world, is like embracing the snow which quickly melts.

Receive Christ into your heart, and he will receive you into his kingdom.

To have our hearts weaned from the world is the way really to enjoy it.

Without faith the Scripture is as useless to us as is the sun to the blind.

The Scripture is a river of truth and love that flows from God.

The Christian is a beggar on his journey, and a king when he arrives at home.

LIZARDS IN SAMOA.

A resident of Samoa writes entertainingly of the lizards found there. They are lively little fellows about two inches long, prettily colored light and dark brown. They feed on flies and can run up a window pane; they have been known to leap twenty feet. When cornered they have a way of snapping off their tails.

These lizards were a maddening puzzle to his kitten. She was no match for them in speed, and when she did overtake one, it would snap off its tail and pussy would not know whether to turn her attention to the wriggling tails or the other parts of the animal. The invariable result of the chase would be that the lizard would get away.

A KING'S COLLECTIONS.

King Edward carefully preserves the artistic programmes of proceedings in which he has taken part. These souvenirs, which number several thousand, are all pasted in large albums which are kept in the library of Buckingham Palace. In the same way the King has kept all his theatre programmes since his earliest playgoing days. This is, without doubt, the most curious and valuable collections of its kind in the world, for managers do not give Kings and Princes ordinary programmes. The bill of the play placed in the royal box used to be printed on silk or satin, with a heavy fringe. It is now as a rule, less elaborate, but not for that reason less artistic; indeed, it is rather more artistic in every way.—London Tit-Bits.

THE GERM OF BAD MANNERS.

"Independence is a trait I like in Americans," said a girl near me the other day. "To think that 'I am as good as every one else' puts a strain of confidence in me."

"That same reflection, 'I am as good as every one else,' is at the bottom of a great deal of our proverbial bad manners," was the reply. "Would it not be better to think 'every one else is as good as I am?' It certainly is a commendable trait to be self-reliant so far as material affairs are concerned, but there is an equality of worth to be recognized in others which is above the obligations to self.—Ada C Sweet.

MOUNT PELEE.

Prof. Angelo Heilprin, who has just returned from a two months' visit to Mount Pelee, on the island of Martinique reports as a distinguishing feature of that unique volcano the formation of a gaint tower or obelisk of rock which is being extruded

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from the summit of the newly made cone. The obelisk rises almost vertically 840 feet above the summit of the cone proper, with a thickness at the base of from 300 to 350 feet. The old summit of Mount Pelee which was rounded and about 4,000 feet high, is now overtopped by this new creation of nearly 1,000 feet in height, which Professor Heilprin calls "Nature's monument to the dead." The total height of the grand but gloomy mountain thus amounts to nearly 5,000 feet, and the huge mass constitutes the greatest volcanic spectacle on earth.

MISCELLANEOUS.

North America has nearly two-fifths of all the railway mileage of the world. The United States has nearly one-third more miles than the British, German and Russian empires combined, and has about twenty-two thousand more miles of railway than all Europe. It has five times as much as Asia and about fourteen and a half times as much as Africa. In 1902 the railways of the United States paid out in wages \$376,028,592. The aggregate investment in the capital stocks of the world's railways is upwards of \$36,850,000,000.

—The strangest event connected with the recent activity of Mount Pelee, not even excepting its sensational annihilation of the city of St. Pierre, is doubtless that which is now taking place—the pushing forth from its summit of an enormous obelisk of polished rock as a cork is pushed from a soda water bottle by the expanding gas within.

—It is estimated that there are in America but about one thousand buffalo now alive. With all their game protection laws, they seem to have been criminally negligent of this native of their plains—an animal whose flesh and hide are of great value.

—The Germans are encouraged over their experiments in raising cotton in Togo, German Southwest Africa. They produced twice as much in Togo the second year as in the first, and at a profit of \$30 for 500 pounds. As Germany manufactures about \$200,000,000 worth of cotton goods yearly, giving employment to over 1,000,000 workmen, the question of producing its own cotton is an important one.

—Amber is now imitated so well that the public, unable to discriminate between the real and the imitation, prefer to leave it alone. Complaint is made that the administrators of the amber mines, now the property of the German Government, supply the raw material mostly in such small pieces that little can be done with it.

The Extension Campaign, by which almost 3,000 new Christian Endeavor societies were added last year in America, is still being pressed with vigor. Ohio, which made a gain of more than ten per cent is already working for another ten per cent increase this year, and other States are just as thoroughly aroused. Last year's effort only put them in good trim for work.

ABOUT EGGS.

Eggs constitute the most universal human food of animal origin.

Duck's eggs are frequently offered in our markets, but turkey eggs are seldom eaten.

Plover eggs are esteemed a great delicacy in England and Germany.

In Virginia, gull's eggs are commonly eaten, and in Texas the eggs of terns and herons are gathered along the coast.

Turtle eggs are highly prized in countries where they are abundant, and though once commonly eaten in America, are now seldom offered.

Hen's eggs have a white or brown color, but duck's eggs are bluish white.

THE INDIAN STANDARD

A MONTHLY MISSIONARY MAGAZINE.

The Organ of the Presbyterian Alliance, India.

This paper is devoted to the interests of Christian work in India, and to all that makes for the upbuilding of the Indian Church. Missionary workers of every denomination should find it useful, as it deals with questions of general interest to all.

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GENERAL LAKE MEMORIAL PRIZE EXAMINATIONS.

A—THE SCRIPTURE EXAMINATIONS, 1904.

To be held in July 1904. Properly certificated lists of candidates, stating their age, religion and Panjab birth, must be sent to the Rev. M. E. WIGRAM, Peshawar, on or before June 15th, 1904.

SENIOR CANDIDATES are those who have passed the Middle School or some higher Examination previous to January 1904. JUNIORS are those who have not done so. No previous prize winner can compete again in the same Division.

The papers will be set in Urdu. Answers may be given either in Urdu or English.

CONDITIONS.—Candidate must be a native of the Panjab under 23 years of age. Christian competitors must not have studied in a Theological College.

SUBJECTS FOR 1904.

SENIORS 1.—I. Samuel. 2.—St. Matthew and the Epistle to the Galatians. 3.—General Questions on the Old and New Testaments. (For Christian Candidates only).

JUNIORS 1.—I. Samuel. 2.—St. Mark. Also, by heart, Chapters ix and x.

PRIZES.

SENIOR DIVISION: Rs. 25, 18, 12, 8.

JUNIOR DIVISION: Rs. 15, 12, 8, 5.

Prize winners also receive a book and a parchment Certificate.

B.—THE HISTORY EXAMINATION, 1903.

To be held in December 1903. Properly certificated list of Candidates, including age and birthplace, must be sent to the Principal C. M. College, Amritsar, on or before November 1st. Three Prizes are offered of the value respectively of Rs. 25, 15 and 10.

The Subject for 1903 will be Macaulay's Essays on Clive and Warren Hastings.

By Order of the Committee of Management.

October 1903.

On an average a hen's egg is two and one-quarter inches long and one and three-quarter inches wide, at the broadest point and weighs two ounces.

Recent official Government figures show that eggs and poultry in the Eastern States of America constitute from 1-12 to 1-6 of the total value of all farm products.

The flavor of eggs may be influenced by the food eaten by laying hens. The North Carolina Experiment Stations, by feeding a quantity of chopped wild onion tops and bulbs to hens, obtained eggs so pronounced in flavor that they could not be eaten and this continued while the onion ration was fed.

IT PAYS.

It pays to wear a smiling face
And laugh our troubles down,
For all our little trials wait
Our laughter or our frown.

Beneath the magic of a smile
Our doubts will fade away,
As melts the frost in early spring
Beneath the sunny ray.

It pays to make a worthy cause,
By helping it, our own;
To give the current of our lives
A true and noble tone.

It pays to comfort heavy hearts,
Oppressed with dull despair,
And leave in sorrow darkened lives
One gleam of brightness there.

It pays to give a helping hand
To eager, earnest youth;
To note, with all their waywardness,
Their courage and their truth;

To strive with sympathy and love
Their confidence to win.
It pays to open wide the heart
And "let the sunshine in."

—Annie E. Treat, in Good Cheer.

AL-HAQQ.

The chief aim of this *monthly urdu* paper is to put "Christ crucified" before Non-Christians and especially before Mohammadans. The paper is in no way a commercial concern. It is therefore sincerely hoped that all who are interested in the evangelisation of India will by their support help in the task of producing it.

To those Missionaries and Christian friends who desire to distribute "Al-Haqq" amongst Mohammadans, the paper will be supplied at the following annual rates including postage:—

5 copies Rs. 1-12-0, 10 copies Rs. 2-8-0, 25 copies Rs. 4-12-0, 50 copies Rs. 8-12-0, 100 copies 16-0-0, single copy 0-11-0, single copy to Non-Christians 0-6-0, a sample copy will be forwarded on receipt of a half anna stamp.

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

AUSTRIA AND THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

London, Dec. 16.

The Emperor Francis Joseph, in receiving the delegations at Vienna, emphasised the renewal of the Triple Alliance which Austria was determined to maintain. He dwelt upon her close harmony with Russia, especially in connection with the Balkans.

AUSTRIA AND SERBIA.

London, Dec. 16.

A sensation has been caused at Belgrade by the publication of the remarks made by the Emperor Francis Joseph when receiving the new Serbian Minister at Vienna. His Majesty said, the friendly relations between the Powers and Serbia could only be renewed when the regicides have been removed from King Peter's entourage.

AMERICAN DEMAND ON KOREA.

London, Nov. 15.

It is stated at New York that Mr. Allen, the American Minister at Seoul, has demanded a definite reply regarding the opening of Wiju.

GLOOMY OUTLOOK.

London, Dec. 16.

Reuter's correspondent wires from Tokio that a conference was held of senior statesmen yesterday to consider the Russian answer, and that the outlook is regarded as most gloomy. Japanese stock is steadily falling.

ATTACK ON THE GERMAN PATROL.

London, Dec. 16.

Renewed fighting has taken place in Damaraland with Hottentots, who drove the German patrol across the Hartebeste river, and wounded an officer and one soldier.

The Cape Police on the opposite bank came under their fire.

THE POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH AMALGAMATION RUMOURS.

Allahabad, Dec. 18.

With regard to various rumours that have been afloat during the last few weeks, the Pioneer understands that no scheme has been formulated for the amalgamation of the Postal and Telegraph Departments in India.

THE DISTURBANCES IN KOREA.

London, Nov. 17.

America is sending a warship to Korea owing to the uneasiness caused by the recent rioting there.

THE RUSSIAN REPLY.

It is understood in London that the Russian reply to Japan, dated 12th instant, affords the bases of an agreement on minor points, but important questions of principle require further negotiation.

THE JAPANESE CONFERENCE.

Reuter's correspondent wires from Tokio that the conference of the elder statesmen lasted three hours, and it is believed that another attempt will be made, and probably the last, to effect a friendly settlement.

MEASURES FOR PUNISHMENT.

London, Dec. 17.

An American warship has been placed at the disposal of the American Consul at Alexandretta who was assaulted by the police there when escorting an Armenian nationalist American subject to a ship. He will now return to Alexandretta in the warship, and himself arrange the term of this reception.

The Armenian has since been released and allowed to sail.

BULGARIAN MILITARY VOTE.

London, Dec. 17.

In view of the Bulgarian Parliament voting an extraordinary military credit of a million sterling after prolonged discussion with closed doors, the Porte has protested to Austria and Russia against Bulgaria's active military preparations, and also demanded an explanation from Bulgaria, who has now replied that the measures were necessary in order to satisfy public opinion.

RISE OF INSURANCE RATES.

London, Dec. 18.

Lloyd's insurance has risen fifty per cent, on Cargoes to the Far East, and war risks have risen five per cent.

WHEAT CROP IN AUSTRALIA.

London, Dec. 18.

The wheat yield in New South Wales is 28,570,000 bushels, being an increase of 12,506,000 bushels over the record year 1901.

AMERICAN MEASURES.

London, Dec. 18.

American marines have been ordered to land in the Gulf of Darien and Santiguel's Bay to prevent a possible Colombian invasion of Panama.

RUSSIA'S REPLY TO JAPAN.

London, Dec. 19.

The *Standard* publishes a telegram from Tokio which states that it is believed Russia's reply virtually rejects the cardinal principle underlying the Japanese claims. If so, unless Russia reconsiders the position, hostilities are almost inevitable.

SEVERER MEASURES WANTED.

The Anti Russian League, and two other bodies in Japan, have forwarded to the throne a petition praying for the adoption of measures other than diplomatic.

MORE RUSSIAN WARSHIPS TO SAIL.

A telegram from Bizerta states that the Russian battleship *Osga* and the cruisers *Aurora* and *Dimitroffski* and five destroyers under Admiral Wrenius, will be reinforced by six more destroyers within a few days, and then sail for the Far East.

JAPAN'S REPLY STILL UNDELIVERED.

Reuter wires from Tokio that owing to the indisposition of the Russian Minister, M. Rosen, Japan's reply to the Russian proposals is still undelivered, but is expected to be delivered in a day or two.

BRITISH OFFERS OF SERVICE.

The Japanese Minister in London is receiving from all parts of Great Britain offers of service in the event of war. Baron Hysashi is deeply impressed, but under Japanese rules no foreigner can be employed on active service.

GLOOMY OUTLOOK.

London, Dec. 20.

Considerable anxiety is expressed in the best informed circles in London concerning the possible outcome of the situation in the Far East. It is quite certain that Japan will not accept the principles of the last Russian Note, which is quite at variance with her main contentions. Moreover, it is known that Russia is assuming a more defiant attitude.

The British Legation at Peking received a telegram a few days ago indicating that war was possible. Nevertheless it is not true that Japan has sent an ultimatum to Russia.

JAPANESE AND RUSSIAN WAR LOANS.

Japanese representatives have conferred with New York bankers relative to a loan, and admitted that it might possibly be used for war purposes. The conferences had no result.

Russia recently made similar fruitless attempts to raise a loan.

London, Dec. 19.

The American Consul has returned to Alexandretta on board the cruiser *San Francisco*.

THE HOME PRESS ON THE SITUATION.

London Dec. 21.

The papers generally recognise the gravity of the situation, and the possibility of Great Britain becoming involved. The *Morning Post* says that Britain ought to be ready for all eventualities. A Russo-Japanese war would involve Britain in serious responsibilities, to meet which preparation is needed. The *Daily Chronicle* says that Russia appears determined to goad Japan into declaring war.

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS.

A *Daily Telegraph* despatch from Port Arthur, dated the 15th instant, says that the feeling there is that there will be no war before the spring, but preparations are proceeding apace. The Russians are strengthening the infantry and cavalry, but there are very few troops south of Harbin.

JAPANESE PREPARATION.

A *Daily Telegraph* despatch from Nagasaki, dated the 19th instant, says that the army reserves there are being warned to be in immediate readiness.

The S

NEWS AND NOTES.

There were 584 patients treated last year at the Pasteur Institute, Kasauli, of whom 269 were Europeans. Among the latter, no case proved fatal, while in 315 native cases only six failed to recover.

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